

PE/G/45.

Herewith information of general interest to troops arriving in Russia.

1. Notes on :-

- (a) Objects of the Force.
- (b) Political views.
- (c) The S.B.A.L.
- (d) The Russian Character.
- (e) The enemy.
- (f) Censorship.
- (g) Communications
- (h) Maps.
- (i) General Notes.

2. Rough Map of situation.

3. Copies of code for co-operation Infantry with Aeroplanes.

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OBJECTS of the FORCE.



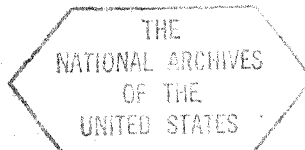
1. To form a military barrier inside which the Russians can reorganise themselves to drive out the German invader.
2. To assist the Russians to reorganise their army by instruction, supervision and example on more reasonable principles than the old regime autocratic discipline.
3. To reorganise the food supplies, make up the deficiencies from Allied Countries. To obtain for export the surplus supplies of goods such as Flax, Timber etc. to fill store ships bringing food here, thus maintaining the economical shipping policy.

In addition to the British, French, American and Italians, we have fighting with us Bohemians, Poles, Finns, Czecho-Slovaks, Serbians, Letts and Roumanians.

Where it is feasible the troops are kept together strictly according to their nationality as none of these nations get on well together, nor well with the Russian, but they are quite prepared to fight side by side against the same enemy.

POLITICAL VIEWS. The Bolshevik Government is entirely in the hands of the Germans who have backed this party against all others in Russia owing to the simplicity of maintaining Anarchy in a totally disorganised country. Therefore, we are definitely opposed to the Bolshevik-cum-German party. In regard to other parties we express no criticism and will accept them as we find them provided they are for "Russia" and therefore for "out with the Boche". Briefly, we do not meddle in internal affairs.

It must be realised that we are not invaders but guests and that we have not any intention of attempting to occupy any Russian Territory.



## THE S. B. A. L.

### THE SLAVE BRITISH ALLIED LEGION.

This is a volunteer force raised to augment the Allied Troops. The Officers are drawn from an Officers Training Corps composed of ex-Russian Officers. The Unit is the platoon which is officered as above, and when trained is attached to an Allied Unit thus coming under the direct command of an Allied Officer. The object of this is to supervise the Command as many Russians are not yet prepared to enlist if they are to come under Russian Officers and a return of the pre-revolution discipline.

The S.B.A.L. is a separate force from the Poles, Serbians, etc., who remain in their original formation under the direct command of their own Officers.

All forces, however, are clothed in khaki since this is the only uniform that can be supplied.

Officers of the S.B.A.L. are drawn from the S.B.A.L. O.T.C. Owing to shortage of Officers uniforms, they wear mens tunics with stars on the shoulders and a St. Andrews Cross in tin as a hat badge.

### RUSSIAN CHARACTER.

Generally speaking the Russian is exactly like a child - inquisitive, easily gulled, easily offended. He is very clever in a theoretical way but is rarely practical. Consequently two golden rules for dealing with Russians are :-

1. Treat him very kindly, absolutely justly but absolutely firmly.
2. Never believe him when he says "It is done" or "It shall be done". Go and see for yourself.

### THE ENEMY.

BOLSHEVIKS. These are soldiers and sailors who, in the majority of cases are criminals. Their natural, vicious brutality enabled them to assume leadership. The Bolshevik is now fighting desperately firstly because the restoration of law and order means an end to his reign and, secondly, because he sees a rope round his neck for his past misdeeds if he is caught.

GERMANS The Bolsheviks have no capacity for organisation but this is supplied by Germans and her lesser Allies. The Germans usually appear in Russian uniform and are impossible to distinguish

### CENSOR.

No mention must be made of :-

1. Disposition of forces.
2. Strength of our forces at any place.
3. Arrival of reinforcements.
4. Names of Ships.
5. Our plans for attack

Writers must be guarded in the letters when speaking of the  
/enemy

enemy as there is much wilful misunderstanding on this point by peacemongers. We are not fighting Russia nor honest Russians. We are fighting Bolsheviks who are the worst class of criminals, backed by Germans and some of Germany's lesser Allies.

In event of any Unit not having Censor Stamps, the letters should be censored by an Officer, franked by him and enclosed in a bag marked "censored letters to be stamped". The letters will then be stamped by the H.Q. of the Unit they are passed to.

#### MAPS.

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The area of present operations is very badly mapped. The only reliable map is the Russian 10 Verst, but we are only in possession of photographic reproductions of this map in very limited numbers, and they are difficult to read.

Other maps available are :-

Stanford Railway Maps of Russia and Siberia (small scale).  
British 'million' map (does not cover whole of area of operations. 1/6,000,000 scale.)  
Special maps produced by "Elope" Mapping Section.

#### Quoting places by coordinates.



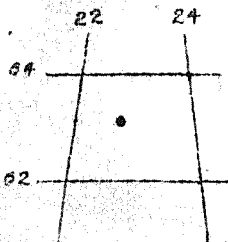
##### Map.

##### System employed.

10 Verst Map.

A tracing is placed over map with S.E. corner of tracing on S.E. corner of map. Map number must be quoted and then the square and coordinates on the tracing.

Stanford and Million.



Use the latitude and longitude Rectangles. The number of each rectangle is the meridian of its S.E. corner.

The number of this square is thus 6222

and the centre point in the square would be 6222 5050.

"Elope" maps have each square numbered.

The point in a square is coordinated by quoting it as so many hundredths East of the West side of the square and then so many hundredths north of the south side of the square - exactly as in France

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

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There is a civil telephone and telegraph service controlled by the Allies in co-ordination with the local government, augmented by a local system of our own. Out forces are provided with wireless sets where it is possible for them to carry them.

All Officers must know how to use Playfair cipher and must memorize the Keyword which can be learnt from H.Q. This provides /a means

a means of sending secret messages in cases of emergency.

GENERAL NOTE.

1. The Force is very seriously short of Interpreters. Units who enlist volunteer interpreters should notify G.H.Q. "Interpreter Section" at once, in order that the distribution may be kept even and the Units at the Front properly supplied.
2. Never omit to shake hands and salute when interviewing Russians. This practice is taken very seriously by Slav nations and causes much offence if neglected.

